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Senate protecting schools from lost MEAP scores

LANSING – Legislation protecting students and schools from being penalized if their Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) answer sheets are lost by the Michigan Department of Education or a state contractor was voted out of the Senate Education Committee Thursday.

Senate Bill 787, cosponsored by Sen. Tom George (R-Texas Twp), would protect schools like Kalamazoo and Portage school districts, two of nine school districts in Michigan that still have not received their MEAP answer sheets. An estimated 3,400 answer sheets are missing statewide.

“Students have worked hard to prepare for these tests and don’t deserve to be penalized for not receiving their scores,” George said. “Likewise, school districts shouldn’t be told they don’t comply with progress standards if their answer sheets were lost by another organization.”

Under SB 787, schools could not be unfairly designated as unaccredited or as not maintaining federal adequate yearly progress as required by the No Child Left Behind Act because of missing results.

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